DOCUMENT RESUME

BD 051 989

SE 007 162

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TITLE

Keys to the Common Genera of Marine Plants Taken
Aboard the Orange County Floating Marine Laboratory.

INSTITUTION

Golden West Coll., Huntington Beach, Calif.

NOTE

-13p.

EDRS PRICE

EDRS Price MF-\$0.65 HC-\$3.29

DESCRIPTORS

Biology, *Botany, College Science, *Instructional

Materials, *Oceanology, Reference Materials,

*Secondary School Science, *Taxonomy

IDENTIFIERS

ESEA Title III

ABSTRACT

Provided is a dichotomous key to the common genera of marine algae and angiosperms which are taken aboard the Orange County Floating Marine Laboratory. It is designed primarily for use by junior and senior high school students. Drawings of representative members of the various genera are included. This work was prepared under an ESEA Title III Contract. (RS)



KEYS TO THE COMMON GENERA OF MARINE PLANTS

THE ORANGE COUNTY FLOATING MARINE LABORATORY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE

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WORK HEREIN SUPPORTED BY ESEA TITLE III - PROJECT No. 67-3799

SE 007 16

KEYS TO THE COMMON GENERA OF MARINE PLANTS TAKEN ABOARD THE ORANGE COUNTY FLOATING MARINE LABORATORY

Prepared by: H. R. Williams, Golden West College, Biology Department

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(Numbers in parentheses refer to the illustrations)

KEY TO THE GROUPS

- 1a. Plants grass-green or dark green to almost black green--Green algae and flowering plants-----This page
- 1b. Plants pink, red, purplish, or brown, but not green-----2
 - 2a. Plants brown, quickly turning green in 70% rubbing alcohol (isopropanol)--brown algae-----This page
 - 2b. Plants pink, reddish, red, purple, purplish or almost black, retaining their color for several minutes in 70% rubbing alcohol--red algae-----3

KEY TO THE GENERA OF GREEN ALGAE AND FLOWERING PLANTS

- 1a. Plants spongy, growing upright and branching dichotomously (1)------CODIUM, Deadman's Fingers
- 1b. Plants not spongy. Resembling grass (2) PHYLLOSPADIX, Surf Grass.

KEY TO THE GENERA OF BROWN ALGAE

- la. Hollow floats present-----2
- 1b. Hollow floats absent-----6
 - 2a. A single, large float (3) PELAGOPHYCUS, Elk Kelp.
 - 2b. More than one float----3
- 3a. Floats in a series (4 & 5)-----4
- 3b. Floats occur individually (6 & 7)-----5
 - 4a. The floats expanding the blade margins (4) CYSTOSEIRA, Sea Fern.
 - 4b. The floats not expanding the blade margins (5) HALIDRYS, Southern Sea Fern.

| 5a. | Stipe (stem) cylindrical in cross section and blades borne alternately along the stipe (6) MACROCYSTIS, California Giant Kelp. |
|-----------|--|
| 5b. | Stipe flat and blades borne in two rows along the margins (7) EGREGIA, Feather Boa. |
| | 6a. The whole plant a bubble, and sac-like (8 & 9)7 |
| | 6b. Plant not a bubble and not sac-like8 |
| 7a. | Plants more or less perforated (8) HYDROCLATHRUS. |
| 7b. | Plants smooth and not perforated (9) COLPOMENIA, Sea Potato. |
| | 8a. Plant with a single, large blade which may be toothed, lobed, or lacerated, few if any branches 9 |
| | 8b. Plant variously branched and divided14 |
| 9a. | Blades with veins or midribs10 |
| 9Ъ. | Blades without veins or midribs11 |
| | 10a. Blades rough and corrigated, developing perforations, the stipe fringedAGARUM |
| | 10b. Blades and stipes smooth, blade undulated or lobed and without perforations (10)Juvenile EGREGIA, Feather Boa |
| 11a. | Plants 1-3 meters long, blades leatheryLAMINARIA |
| 11ь: | Plants under 60 cm long, blades smooth, thin12 |
| | 12a. Blades wich lobes along the margin (11)Juvenile EISENIA, Southern Sea Palm. |
| | 12b. Blades without lobes along the margin13 |
| 13a. | Blades expanding gradually and developing a longitudinal median slit above the stipe (12)Juvenile MACROCYSTIS, |
| 1 21 | California Giant Kelp. |
| 13ь. | Blades expanding abruptly above the stipe, not developing a slit (13)Juvenile LAMINARIA. |
| ý . • | 14a. Plants tree-like, stipe heavy15 |
| i, exist. | 14b. Plants not tree-like, mainly flat blades16 |
| 15a. | Plants forked and bearing two groups of drooping strape-like blades-"EISENIA, Southern Sea Palm. |
| 15b. | Stipe bearing branches near the top and ending in a blade |

-----PTERYGOPHORA

| | 16a. Plants with midribs or veins (14)DICTYOPTERIS |
|------------------|--|
| | 16b. Plants without midribs or veins, dichotomously branched and about equal in breadth in upper and lower parts17 |
| 17a. | Plants usually dark brown, branches usually over 5mm wide; margins over 3 cells thick (15)PACHYDICTYON |
| 1.7b. | Plants usually light brown, branches usually under 5 mm wide; margins only 3 cells thick (16)DICTYOTA |
| | KEY TO THE GENERA OF RED ALGAE |
| la. | Plants jointed and stony (calcareous) The Corallinaceae2 |
| 1b. | Plants not jointed and stony4 |
| | 2a. Conceptacles restricted to terminal segments, branching dominantly pinnateCORALLINA |
| | 2b. Conceptacles not restricted to terminal segments, branching various3 |
| 3a. | Segments cylindrical or only slightly flattened, twice to many times as long as wide |
| Зъ. | Segments markedly flattened, conceptacles on both face and marginsCALLIARTHRON |
| | 4a. Major portion of plant not more than 4 times as broad as thick5 |
| | 4b. Major plant parts clearly flat, being more than 4 times as broad as thick12 |
| 5a. | Major plant parts round in cross-section (cylindrical)6 |
| 5b. | Major plant parts somewhat flattened24 |
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| | 6b. The cylindrical stipe not bearing enlarged branches7 |
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| 7b.; | Diameter of major cylindrical stipe 1 mm or less10 |
| | 8a. Branching dichotomousSCINAIA |
| \$. ⁷ | 8b. Branching not dichotomous9 |
| 9a. | Plants with twining and hooked branches-LAURENCIA SUBOPPOSITA |
| 9Ъ. | Plants without twining and hooked branchesAGARDHIELLA |

| 7 | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| | 10a. All branches similar11 |
| • ; | 10b. Stipe bearing tufts of minute, hairlike lateral branchesPOGONOPHORELLA |
| 11a. | Branches consisting of one row of large cells GRIFFITHSIA |
| 11b. | Branches consisting of many rows of cells, coarse, wirelike, to 20 cm or more in lengthGELIDIUM |
| | 12a. Plants parasol-shaped13 |
| | 12b. Plants not parasol-shaped14 |
| 13a. | Blade margins smoothDROUETIA |
| 13ъ. | Blade with starlike pointsSCIADOPHYCUS |
| | 14a. Plants entangled and bearing hooked branchesACROSORIUM |
| | 14b. Plants not bearing hooked branches15 |
| 15a. | Blades with lines or veins16 |
| 15b. | Blades not with lines or veins17 |
| | 16a. Blades with smooth marginsfemale STENOGRAMME |
| | 16b. Blades with toothed marginsNIENBURGIA |
| 17a. | Blades with irregular teeth along the marginsLEPTOCLADIA |
| 17Ъ. | Blades with smooth margins or with lobes, ruffles or other irregularities, but not teeth18 |
| . " w | 18a. Plants under 3 cm in length, usually growing attached to other plants |
| | 18b. Plants larger than 3 cm, usually attached to rocks21 |
| * * | Plants with midrib and lateral veins visible under a weak hand lensBRANCHIOGLOSSUM UNDULATUM |
| 19b. | Plants without midrib20 |
| | 20a. Plants round-lobed, unbranched, one cell thickMYRIOGRAMME |
| e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e | 20b. Plants branched, segments strap-shaped, many cells thickFAUCHEA |
| | Plants unbranched or very little branched |
| | Plants clearly and frequently branched2. |



| | 22a. Flat surface of broad blades with rough or pointed outgrowthsGRATELOUPIA HOWEII |
|------|---|
| | 22b. Flat surface of broad blades essentially smooth |
| 23a. | Outermost branches becoming congestedCARPOPELTIS |
| 23b. | Outermost branches not becoming congestedPHYLLOPHORA |
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| 25a. | Plants composed of compressed or flattened parts without marginal teeth26 |
| 25ъ. | Plants of flat blades with irregular marginal teethLEPTOCLADIA |
| | 26a. Upper branches very dense, feathery, with many branchlets curved like sicklesPLOCAMIUM |
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| 27a. | Small branchlets with knee-bends; mature parts with branches about the same width throughout their length |
| 27ъ. | Small branchlets without knee-bends; mature parts with branches reduced im diameter and becoming entangledPTEROCLADIA |

ILLUSTRATIONS



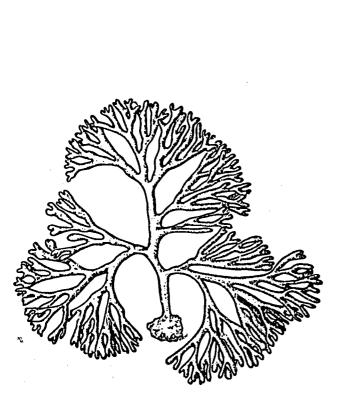


Fig. 1 CODIUM - Deadman's Fingers

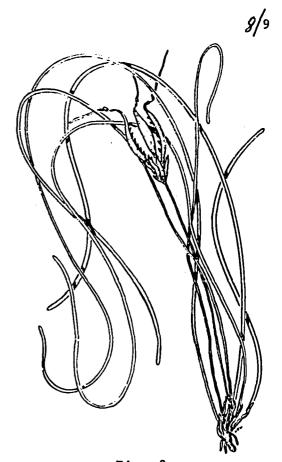


Fig. 2
PHYLLOSPADIX - Surf Grass

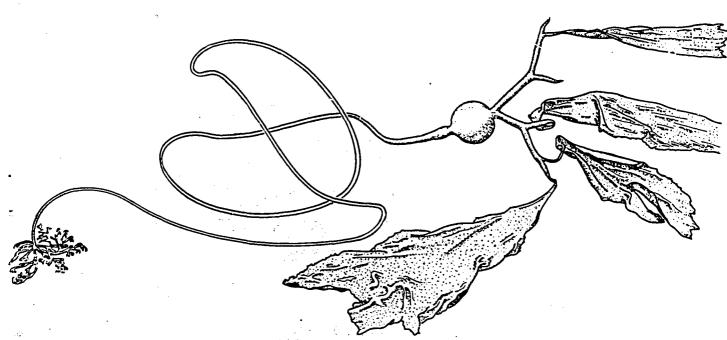


Fig. 3
PELAGOPHYCUS - Elk Kelp

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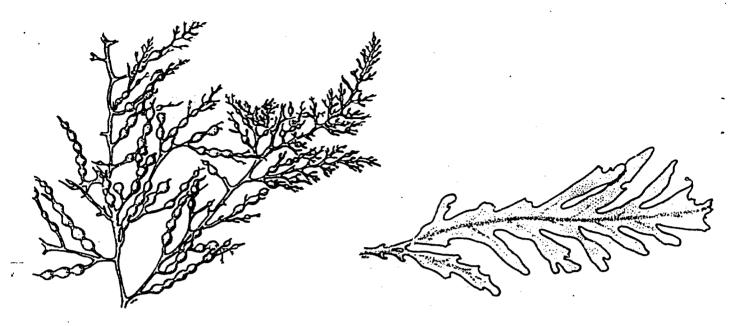


Fig. 4a
Annual portion of plant

Fig. 4b
Oak-like blade from the perennial base of the plant

CYSTOSEIRA - Sea Fern



Fig. 5
Part of the annual portion of HALIDRYS. The blades of the perennial base are indistinguishable from those of CYSTOSEIRA (Figure 4b).



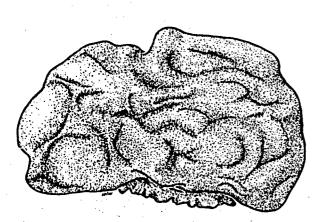
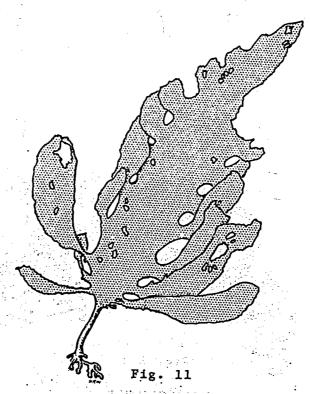


Fig. 9 COLPOMENIA - Sea Potato



Fig. 10 Juvenile *EGREGIA* - Feather Boa



Juvenile EISENIA - Southern Sea Palm .

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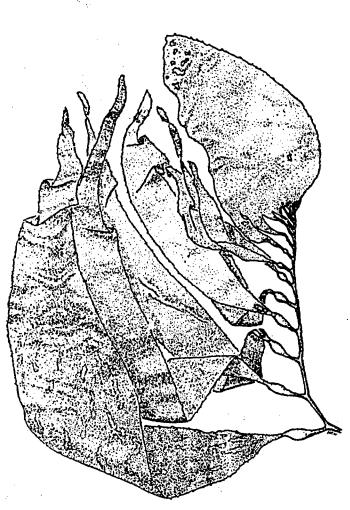
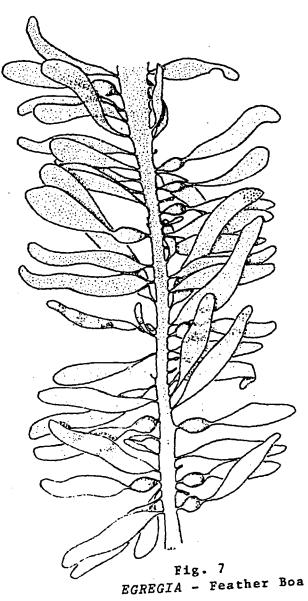
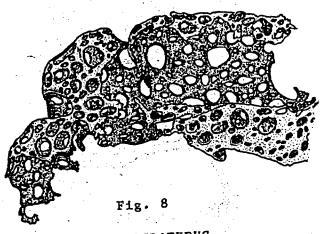


Fig. 6

MACROCYSTIS - California Giant Kelp







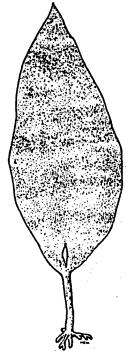


Fig. 12 Juvenile MACROCYSTIS (California Giant Kelp)



Fig. 13 Juvenile LAMINARIA

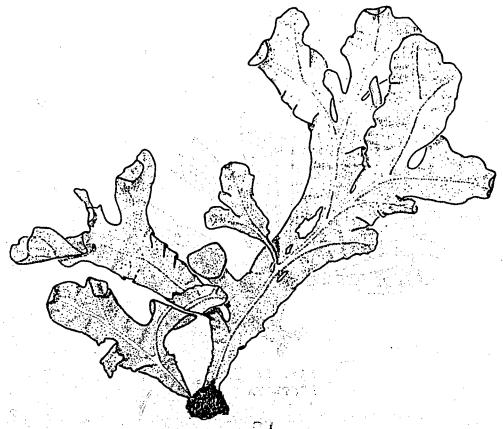


Fig. 14 - DICTYOPTERIS



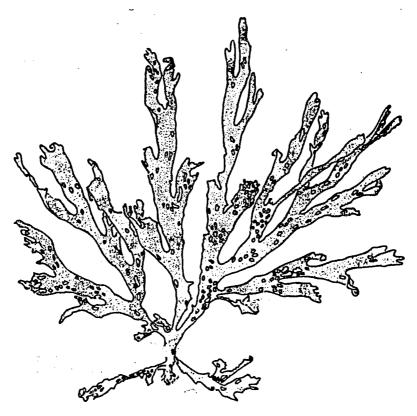


Fig. 15
PACHYDICTYON

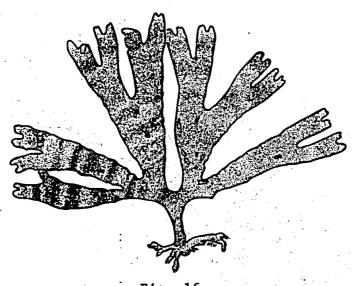


Fig. 16 DICTYOTA